



THE PIONEER MOUNTAINS

By
M. S. Benedict, Supervisor
Sawtooth National Forest





1.
No monument of man,
These lordly heights!
No stilted wall,
No guarded door,
No melancholy corridor
Of graven image.

But, etched by the sun,
Tinted with hues
Of the dawn,
Sculptured by winds,
The rains, the snows
Of infinite years;
These immortal spires,
These battlements of glory -
Ascending from
The heart of the earth,
Aspiring to
The canopy of the blue -
Bespeak the fashioning
Of a hand divine
In the far corridors
Of God's eternal time.



2.

The roving Indian
 Visioned, in those
 Dawn-flushed crags,
 The home
 Of the sun -
 I-dah-ho!

To the trapper,
 Hardy of soul,
 Their mighty minarets
 Were steadfast beacons
 Of the trackless
 Wilderness.

Struggling wearily,
 Resistlessly,
 Across the tortuous
 Plains of the Snake,
 The sturdy emigrant
 Espied, on far horizon,
 Those sun-lit peaks,
 Their snow-capped summits
 The emblem of hope,
 Of the grace
 Of the promised land.

The miner,
 With spirit elated,
 Envisioned those
 Enchanted crests,
 Aflame with
 Evening glow,
 The city of gold,
 The dreamed-of
 El Dorado.

The settler,
 Beset with care,
 Battling bravely
 The dire adversities
 Of a new land,
 Raised grateful eyes
 To those cool heights,
 And gave thanks
 For goodly gifts
 Of useful woods,
 And quickening waters;
 Found surcease
 From trial
 In those tranquil towers,
 And rejoiced
 In the sublimity
 Of their templed spires.





4.

These mountains,
 These Peaks
 Of the Pioneers!
 Nobly they
 Stand there -
 Majestic,
 Serene,
 Eternal;
 Symbols
 Of Faith,
 Of Courage,
 Of Sacrifice,
 Of that enduring spirit
 Which is the glory
 Of the Pioneer!

5.

Through
 The years ahead,
 Through ages
 Yet to come,
 The rains of spring
 And summer sun
 Will wreath those heights
 In hallowed memory -
 Memories revered
 In the ceaseless song
 Of the murmuring waters,
 In the voice
 Of the wind
 In vaulted towers;
 A memory
 Enthroned,
 Enshrined,
 Immortalized,
 Through
 Resounding years,
 In these,
 The Mountains
 Of the Pioneers!



Decision of the
UNITED STATES GEOGRAPHIC BOARD

PIONEER: Mountains, Blaine and Custer Counties, Idaho, the mass extending southeast from Ryan Peak, in unsurveyed T. 7 N., R. 17 E., Boise meridian, to the Snake River Plains, forming the divide between Big Wood and Little Wood Rivers and Big Lost River. Named for the pioneers who collectively settled Idaho. Names of distinguished early pioneers of Idaho will be later given to the individual peaks.

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